

**Windham Trails Sub Committee
(Draft) Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2020**

Attendance:

Wayne Morris
Norm Babineau
Dave Curto
John Mangan
Mark Samsel
Derek Monson
Bill Hutchings
Jim Finn (excused)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM via “Zoom”.

Election of Officers – Dave nominated Wayne as chair and Norm as vice-chair, John seconded. Approved 5-0-0.

Appointment of New Members – Derek Monson and Bill Hutchings would like to join as new members of the Trails Committee. John motioned to approve new members. Dave seconded. Approved 5-0-0.

Minutes from 4-30-19 reviewed. Mark motioned to accept as presented, Dave seconded. Approved 5-0-2.

Discussion:

Conservation Commission – Contracted with SNHRPC to produce trail maps of 6 areas. GPS, mapping, online map and kiosk signs.

Highclere Estates – Karl Dubay updates. He would like a punch list of any issues he can pursue from the Committee. Trail marker box being returned to Norm. Karl to verify granite posts. Bill reports there’s still a need for bridges and posts. Bill would like new signage prohibiting motorized vehicles and removal of “no trespassing” signs. Dave has sample sign and will send to Karl. Chestnut access needs to be reviewed and marked. Mid-trail access needs improvement. Bill will put together a list of open issues.

Del Ray Place & Great Mountain View Estates & Ryan Farm – Karl updates. Bob Peterson is ready to install trails. Karl will flag, rough clip, do site walk with Committee, install markers and post. This to include connections to other roads and power lines. Wayne mentioned possibly working with Shayne at Presidential Estates subdivision for connectivity. Karl will wait for site walk dates from the Committee.

Weston Estates – Norm reports Alliance Landscaping installed kiosk and granite trail post. Easement neighbor unhappy that post was located on his property and not in the easement. Karl will verify location. Forestry to purchase boxwood shrubs to screen post. Wayne asking if granite post could be installed at Copps Hill.

Windham Woods School – Improvements ongoing at the school. Possible small high school. Ryan Dejoy school director would like a master plan to include trail connections and horse paddock. Ryan would like to host a meeting to discuss. Wayne mentioned possible new trail parallel to rail trail to Stone Arch bridge. Norm would like to see a map of their existing trails. Ryan is in constant communication with El Hefni representative Susan. Discontinued Gov Dinsmore Road runs through center of the campus. School is concerned with public access through their campus. This should be part of the master planning with the town for the property. First step is to share info and plan strategies.

Wood Meadow Estates – Wayne has been working with Shayne at Hebert Associates. Working on letter to Planning Board to build 3 bridges on existing trails in lieu of building some of the new access trails. Planning to build connection to old Spear Hill road to Salem, and another trail on the opposite side of Settler’s Ridge to

access Conservation and McIlvaine Town Forest trails. Norm recommends another short trail from the end of the new Glendenin cul-de-sac to access the forest trails. Dave commented this might help with access to install other trails/bridges. Dave would also like to see the new Settler's Ridge trail connect to Spear Hill towards Range Rd. Norm mentioned the new Acadia cul-de-sac has no trail access. Wayne pointed out the well road could be an access trail but grades are challenging. Worth exploring town boundaries to see if possible from cul-de-sac.

Clyde Pond – Derek has been working with NEMBA to install singletrack trails for mountain bikers. Mapping is being done on free app "Trail Forks" and suggest this app be mentioned in kiosk. Trails can be confusing for new users and should be marked for clarification. Dave would like to work on the markings with Derek. New signage could specify carry-in, carry-out and no unauthorized trail building. Wayne would like mapping in-house and hesitant to use free apps due to unauthorized updates/naming. Derek mentioned apps give users real time location along the trails and helps people way find easily as opposed to a static map. Trail Forks app requires updates to be authorized through app administrator so more secure than OpenStreetMap. Dave hoping to get trash can at the parking area soon and new signage. Mark mentioned he has spoken to the new state CO and he is a useful resource.

Windham Rail Trail – Rainforest section reconstruction. Gov Dinsmore bridge has additional metal plates. Excavating 200' a day then under drainage install and new gravel base. Estimated 4-5 weeks. Trail closed for this period. Dave received email on trail from Edinburg Rd. easement. Wayne mentioned it's a paper easement and does not connect to a trail.

Greenway Rail Trail – Dave has received inquiries on the tunnel access under Route93. This can be accessed from the west along the rail bed but the connection to No Lowell Rd has not been completed past the daycare. Still active construction zone and use is not recommended. Wayne working with Dave and state to install conduit for tunnel lights. Final trail location not determined for trail bed or right turn to No Lowell. Connection from No Lowell to Windham Rail Trail not finalized. Our current recommendation is a sidewalk along Depot Road with a T intersection at No Lowell.

Deer Leap – Boardwalk has been extended over muddy area by Conservation.

Foster's Pond – Eagle scout has approached Conservation to repair boardwalks. Final plans forthcoming.

Dave discussed forming trail adopters or stewards to help monitor and maintain the town trail networks. Norm thinks the naming should be formalized through the town due to liability concerns. Dave will pursue through Conservation and town for approval through BOS.

Motion to adjourn by Norm, seconded by Derek, approved 7-0-0.

Next meeting date to be determined.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Norm Babineau.